

In the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended): ~~A method of increasing the yield of stem cells in a patient, comprising:~~

~~—— administering an effective amount of SHIP inhibitor to the patient; and~~

~~—— harvesting the stem cells from the patient.~~ A method of increasing the number of stem cells in a patient, comprising administering an effective amount of an RNA interference molecule targeting SH2-domain containing inositol 5-phosphatase (SHIP) to the patient, wherein the number of stem cells in the patient are thereby increased.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The method of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the stems cells are selected from the group consisting of hematopoietic stem cells, mammary stem cells, mesenchymal stem cells, and organ specific stem cells.

Claims 4-17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~administering the harvested stem cells to the patient~~ harvesting the stem cells from the patient after said administering.

Claim 19 (New): The method of claim 18, wherein said harvesting comprises leukopheresis.

Claim 20 (New): The method of claim 18, further comprising administering the harvested stem cells to the patient.

Claim 21 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein the stem cells are hematopoietic stem cells.

Claim 22 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein the RNA interference molecule is administered intravenously.

Claim 23 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein the stem cells are hematopoietic stem cells and the RNA interference molecule is administered intravenously.

Claim 24 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein said administering mobilizes the stem cells to the peripheral blood.

Claim 25 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein the patient has undergone myeloablation.